

WASHINGTON, DC – Congressman Robert C. "Bobby" Scott (VA-3) and Congressman Randy Forbes (VA-4) issued the following statement on the introduction of H.R. 2634, which would expand the boundaries of the Petersburg National Battlefield:

"We are proud to introduce legislation to expand the boundaries of Petersburg National Battlefield. The Siege of Petersburg marked an important turning point near the end of the Civil War and directly preceded the Confederacy's surrender at Appomattox Courthouse. This Siege also marked the largest incorporation of African Americans serving in the United States Colored Troops in to the Union Army, during which these men earned 15 of the 16 total Medals of Honor awarded to African-American soldiers in the Civil War.

"Passage of this bill and expansion of the Petersburg National Battlefield Park has been estimated to directly create 150 jobs and significantly expand tourism to Petersburg at no cost to taxpayers. We look forward to continuing to work with our colleagues in Congress to ensure that the lands and history of Petersburg National Battlefield Park are preserved for future generations."

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